

What is claimed is:

1. An overhead garage door comprising a plurality of rectangular garage door sections, the sections being pivotally connected together one above the other, each door section including at least one thin-walled face panel and one or more patterns embossed in the face panel, wherein the embossed patterns in the face panels provide the garage door with the simulated appearance of at least two separate, cooperating vertically-hung doors when the garage door is in a closed position.
2. An overhead garage door according to claim 1 wherein the embossed patterns provide the garage door with the simulated appearance of at least two cooperating vertically-hung doors that are substantially constructed of a plurality of spaced interconnected vertical and horizontal frame members and a plurality of substantially planar inset panels disposed between the spaced frame members.
3. An overhead garage door according to claim 2 wherein the embossed patterns provide at least a portion of the face panels of the garage door with the simulated appearance of inset panels formed by a plurality of interconnected tongue-and-groove planks.
4. An overhead garage door according to claim 2 wherein the embossed patterns further provide the garage door with the simulated appearance of at least two cooperating vertically hung doors that include at least one diagonal frame member.

5. An overhead garage door according to claim 1 wherein the thin-walled face panels are substantially constructed of sheet metal.

5 6. An overhead garage door according to claim 1 wherein the thin-walled face panels are substantially constructed of plastic.

7. An overhead garage door according to claim 1 wherein each garage door section further comprises at least one layer of insulation therein.

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8. An overhead garage door comprising:

(a) a substantially rectangular upper section, the upper section including an thin-walled upper face panel having an upper front face, an upper edge, a lower edge, and side edges, the upper front face comprising a first integrally-formed substantially vertical groove substantially extending between the upper and lower edges;

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(b) a substantially rectangular lower section, the lower section including a thin-walled lower face panel having a lower front face, a top edge, a lower edge, and side edges, the lower front face comprising a second integrally-formed substantially vertical groove substantially extending between the top and bottom edges;

20 (c) at least one connector pivotally connecting the bottom edge of the upper section to the top edge of the lower section, the upper and lower front faces being substantially coplanar when the garage door is in a closed position;

(d) wherein the first and second substantially vertical grooves are substantially collinear when the garage door is in the closed position, thereby substantially simulating the appearance of a vertical separation between left and right portions of the upper and lower sections.

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9. An overhead garage door according to claim 8 wherein at least one of the upper and lower front faces includes one or more embossed patterns that provide the simulated appearance of an inset panel portion.

10 10. An overhead garage door according to claim 9 wherein each embossed pattern is substantially rectangular and has a height to width ratio of at least about 1.2.

11. An overhead garage door according to claim 9 wherein each embossed pattern comprises a substantially planar portion including a plurality of spaced, vertical, substantially parallel grooves, the substantially planar portion thereby substantially
15 simulating the appearance of an inset panel formed by a plurality of assembled tongue-and-groove planks.

12. An overhead garage door according to claim 11, wherein each embossed pattern
20 further comprises an integrally-formed, diagonally-oriented, simulated support member.

13. An overhead garage door according to claim 9, wherein each embossed pattern further comprises an integrally-formed, diagonally-oriented, simulated support member.

14. An overhead garage door according to claim 8 wherein the substantially vertical first and second grooves in the upper and lower sections are substantially horizontally centered between the side edges of the upper and lower sections.

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15. An overhead garage door according to claim 8, the garage door further comprising:

(a) a first embossed pattern integrally formed in the upper front face of the upper section, the first embossed pattern comprising an integrally-formed panel portion,
10 and a first raised, integrally-formed, diagonally-oriented, simulated support member having a first longitudinal axis that is nonparallel to any edge of the upper section; and

(b) a second embossed pattern integrally-formed in the lower front face of the lower section, the second embossed pattern comprising an integrally formed panel portion, and a raised, integrally-formed, diagonally-oriented, simulated support member
15 having a second central longitudinal axis that is nonparallel to any of the edges of the lower section;

(c) wherein the upper and lower sections are substantially coplanar and the first and second central longitudinal axes of the simulated support members are substantially collinear when the garage door is in a closed position.

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16. An overhead garage door according to claim 8 wherein at least one of the panel portions in the upper or lower sections is substantially rectangular and has a height to width ratio of at least about 1.2:1.

17. An overhead garage door according to claim 8 wherein the upper section includes an embossed pattern having a substantially arcuate upper edge.
- 5 18. An overhead garage door according to claim 8 wherein the upper section includes at least one window opening.
19. An overhead garage door according to claim 8 wherein the upper and lower sections are substantially constructed of sheet metal.
- 10 20. An overhead garage door according to claim 8 wherein the upper and lower sections are substantially constructed of plastic.
21. An overhead garage door according to claim 8 wherein the upper section includes at least one upper insulation layer therein, and wherein the lower panel includes at least
15 one lower insulation layer therein.
22. An overhead garage door comprising an embossed pattern in a thin-walled face panel, the embossed pattern comprising an integrally-formed panel portion, the panel portion having a substantially planar portion including a plurality of spaced, vertically,
20 parallel grooves, the substantially planar portion thereby substantially simulating the appearance of a non-metal panel formed by a plurality of assembled tongue-and-groove planks.

23. An overhead garage door according to claim 22, wherein the embossed pattern further comprises a substantially rectangular raised frame portion surrounding the panel portion.
- 5 24. An overhead garage door according to claim 22, wherein the panel portion is substantially rectangular in shape and includes a height and a width, wherein the ratio of the height to the width is at least about 1.2:1.
- 10 25. An overhead garage door according to claim 22 wherein the thin-walled face panel is substantially constructed of sheet metal.
26. An overhead garage door according to claim 22 wherein the thin-walled face panel is substantially constructed of plastic.
- 15 27. An overhead garage door having an integrally embossed pattern in a thin-walled face, the embossed pattern comprising:
- (a) an integrally-formed panel portion having a rectangular frame portion bordering top, bottom, and side margins of the raised panel;
 - b) a recessed, substantially planar panel portion disposed within the
 - 20 rectangular frame portion; and
 - (c) at least one integrally-formed, diagonally-oriented, simulated support member disposed within the frame portion of the panel.

28. An overhead garage door having an embossed pattern according to claim 27, wherein the panel portion has a height and a width, and wherein the ratio of the height to the width is at least about 1.2:1.

5 29. An overhead garage door having an embossed pattern according to claim 27, wherein the substantially planar panel portion includes a plurality of spaced, vertically-oriented, parallel grooves, the substantially planar portion thereby substantially simulating the appearance of a non-metal panel formed by a plurality of assembled tongue-and-groove planks.

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30. A method of constructing an overhead garage door, the method comprising:

(a) providing a set of dies for forming a plurality of embossed patterns in a sheet metal garage door section, the set of dies comprising:

15 (i) a first die configured for forming a first embossed pattern comprising an integrally-formed, diagonally-oriented, upwardly-sloping simulated support member;

(ii) a second die configured for forming a second embossed pattern comprising a raised, integrally-formed, diagonally-oriented, downwardly-sloping simulated support member; and

20 (iii) a third die configured for forming a third embossed pattern that is substantially different from the first and second embossed patterns;

(b) producing a plurality of embossed metal garage door sections with the set of dies such that each section includes at least one selected embossed pattern;

(c) selectively arranging and pivotally connecting the plurality of garage door sections together to form at least a substantial portion of an overhead garage door having a desired appearance in a closed position.

5 31. A method of constructing an overhead garage door according to claim 30, wherein at least one of the selected embossed patterns for at least one of the door sections is the first or second embossed pattern.

10 32. A method of constructing an overhead garage door according to claim 30 wherein at least one of the first, second, and third dies is further configured for forming an embossed pattern that includes a substantially planar panel portion having a plurality of spaced, vertically-oriented, parallel grooves, the substantially planar portion thereby substantially simulating the appearance of a non-metal panel formed by a plurality of assembled tongue-and-groove planks.

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33. A method of constructing an overhead garage door according to Claim 30 wherein the first, second, and third embossed patterns have substantially rectangular shapes, each substantially rectangular shape having a height and width wherein the ratio of the height to the width is at least about 1.2:1.

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